

Workbook

The Great California Delta Trail Eastern Region Blueprint Report:
Joint Technical and Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting #1

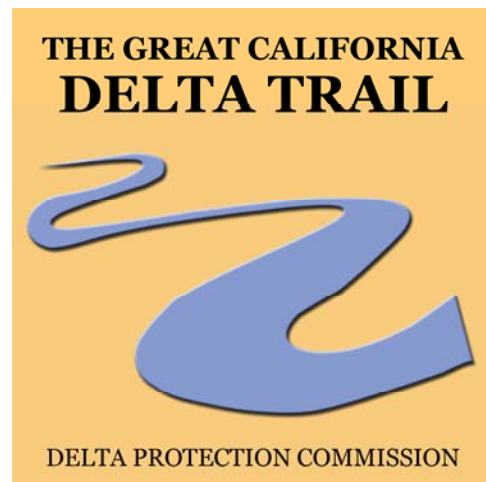
Thursday April 11, 2013

6 – 8 pm

The Old Sugar Mill – Barrel Room

35265 Willow Avenue

Clarksburg, CA 95612



Vision

The Delta Trail will be an interconnected regional network of land and water trails fostering a physical and visual connection to the Delta. The network will support recreation and tourism; safer access to community centers, parks, schools, neighborhoods, businesses and tourism facilities for bicyclists, pedestrians, and people with disabilities; healthier lifestyles; appreciation of the Delta heritage, and appreciation of the natural and agriculture resources of the Delta.

The network will be planned and implemented by the local communities, reflecting their desires and character, and sensitive to the needs, opportunities and constraints of each setting. The Delta Trail will be a source of pride for the communities, providing a unifying regional identity while celebrating unique qualities of the Delta Region.

Goals

The following goals will guide the Delta Trail planning process towards achieving the Trail Vision:

1. Community Benefits
2. Outreach and Engagement
3. Connections to Regional and Local Destinations
4. Compatibility with Existing Land Uses
5. Equitable Access
6. Education and Encouragement
7. Partnerships and Momentum
8. Environmental Stewardship
9. Quality Design and Implementation
10. Adequate Funding
11. Quality Maintenance and Operations

Goal 1: Community Benefits

Policy 1.1: Promote the Delta Trail as a source of pride for Delta and California residents, and as an (local and regional amenity) to attract residents, businesses and tourism to Delta communities.

Policy 1.2: Support recreation activities and tourism through design and trail location, to complement existing facilities and recreational activities.

Policy 1.3: Provide more routes for walking and bicycling as safe routes to schools and transit connections.

Policy 1.4: Support healthy lifestyles by providing trails that are convenient, safe and enjoyable for trail users to recreate and experience the outdoors.

Policy 1.5: Increase awareness and appreciation of Delta community features, environment, and sensitive resources within the region and beyond.

Policy 1.6: Support economic opportunities by providing trails that access commercial and agricultural uses.

Goal 2: Outreach and Engagement

Policy 2.1: Inform the public, organizations, and local government officials about the values and benefits of a Delta Trail system.

Policy 2.2: Facilitate the exchange of information and technical expertise among local governments, agencies, organizations and groups to contribute to a Delta Trail Plan that is achievable and reflects public needs and desires.

Policy 2.3: Facilitate better understanding of major opportunities and issues relative to the planning, development and implementation of the Delta Trail.

Policy 2.4: Engage key local, regional and state agencies, organizations and community stakeholders in creating and implementing the Delta Trail Plan.

Goal 3: Connections to Regional and Local Destinations

Policy 3.1: Establish and enhance regional trail connections to activity centers such as parks, schools, work places, public services, retail and commercial areas, residential neighborhoods, and adjacent counties.

Policy 3.2: Include a hierarchy of trails (e.g. Regional, Connector, Local) to create logical and safe linkages within the regional transportation and recreation network.

Policy 3.3: Connect regionally-significant trails with local trails and on-street bikeways.

Policy 3.4: Establish trail connections between fragmented portions of existing trails and to new development and subdivisions.

Policy 3.5: Prioritize connections to the existing transit system to encourage multi-modal connections to the trail network.

Policy 3.6: Locate trailheads at or in conjunction with activity centers to maximize local access to the trail system.

Policy 3.7: Provide safe highway, road, rail and waterway crossings to improve connectivity for non-motorized users.

Policy 3.8: Connect the trail to and through existing regional open space areas and publicly owned areas.

Goal 4: Compatibility with Existing Land Uses

Policy 4.1: Where possible use existing public lands, easements and other public rights- of-way, including established routes, existing levees and utility corridors.

Policy 4.2: Protect agricultural viability through sensitivity to agricultural concerns such as trail user exposure to dust and spraying, crop theft, liability, and trespass.

Policy 4.3: Recommend trail routes and designs that avoid or minimize concerns about trespassing on private property and environmentally sensitive areas, agricultural liability, conflicts with hunting, and water hazards.

Policy 4.4: Encourage and accommodate different trail uses and to avoid potential conflicts and impacts, design facilities based on the demand for and appropriateness of each use at each trail setting and facility.

Goal 5: Provide Equitable Access

Policy 5.1: Develop trails that accommodate all users and range of abilities as appropriate to each setting.

Policy 5.2: Provide trail access for people with disabilities to the full extent of the law and where physically feasible.

Policy 5.3: Provide access for people of all economic levels to Delta recreational facilities and activities, water bodies, natural resources, scenic corridors, natural and agricultural resources and points of interest.

Goal 6: Education and Encouragement

Policy 6.1: Provide educational opportunities and environmental/agricultural/cultural information along the trail.

Policy 6.2: Coordinate with health care organizations and agencies to promote use and expansion of the trail system for its health benefits.

Policy 6.3: Coordinate with transportation and land use organizations and agencies to promote use and expansion of the trail system for its transportation benefits.

Policy 6.4: Provide unified signage and mapping to promote a distinctive identity and provide clear orientation and wayfinding on the trail system.

Policy 6.5: Integrate information on local, city, state and federal park system features and recreational opportunities into Delta Trail materials.

Policy 6.6: Inform and engage the public, local agencies, organizations and groups through Delta Protection Commission (DPC) web site and published materials.

Goal 7: Partnerships and Momentum

Policy 7.1: Maintain project momentum through DPC as the lead for trail planning and coordination or through cooperative agreements, and through local communities and/or environmental, park and recreation agencies and organizations as the leads for planning, and implementation of specific projects.

Policy 7.2: Coordinate trail planning and development and actively identify joint use opportunities with other jurisdictions and organizations

Policy 7.3: Integrate the Delta Trail within the California recreational trail system identified in the Recreational Trails Plan and other adopted regional and local trail systems.

Policy 7.4: Encourage cities and counties to incorporate Delta Trail policies and potential alignments into various plans (general, transportation, community redevelopment, community and trail) and tentative subdivision maps.

Policy 7.5: Coordinate and integrate with other Delta projects for ecosystem restoration, flood control, and water supply.

Policy 7.6: Reach out to and coordinate with agencies and organizations with substantial experience implementing and managing trails

Policy 7.7: Encourage private landowners to dedicate public trail easements to connect the regional trail system and avoid the use of eminent domain.

Policy 7.8: Through adopted county and city plans seek land or easement dedications for trails as part of development project approval.

Goal 8: Environmental Sustainability and Stewardship

Policy 8.1: Plan and design trails to avoid or minimize environmental impacts, including impacts on adjacent land uses.

Policy 8.2: Use the latest “green” design practices and construction methods to avoid impacts associated with constructing and operating trails.

Policy 8.3: Support walking and bicycling as alternative transportation modes to reduce traffic congestion and improve air and water quality.

Policy 8.4: Plan and design trails to avoid negative impacts to wildlife, especially to nesting areas and special status species.

Policy 8.5: Plan and manage trails and trail use to avoid impacts of animal access on water quality or adjacent agricultural areas, and to avoid the spread of invasive species (seeds, plants, pathogens, animals).

Goal 9: Quality Design and Implementation

Policy 9.1: Comply with federal, state, and local design guidelines and best practices for trails, bikeways, pedestrian facilities, and roadway, rail, and drainage crossings.

Policy 9.2: To avoid potential conflicts and impacts consider all types of trail uses and appropriateness of demand when designating allowable uses at each trail setting/facility.

Policy 9.3: Accommodate road bicycles, strollers, wheelchairs and electric scooters for people with disabilities with separate paved multi-use trails (preferred), sidewalks or bike lanes on regional and community connectors.

Policy 9.4: Accommodate equestrian trail use where appropriate.

Policy 9.5: Provide a consistent design or theme along trail segments, but allow flexibility to adapt to different community needs and site-specific conditions.

Policy 9.6: Provide convenient and safe trailheads with parking, restrooms, and other facilities to support trail use and minimize impact on adjoining properties.

Policy 9.7: Include fences, gates, buffers, screening vegetation and other features to minimize impacts on adjacent lands.

Policy 9.8: Provide signage, maps and markers to minimize conflicts with vehicles and other trail users, to prevent impacts to resources and adjacent lands, and to help users know and navigate the trail system.

Policy 9.9: Plan and design trails with consideration for sea level rise that may affect levee stability and flooding.

Goal 10: Adequate Funding

Policy 10.1: Provide adequate funding to develop, enhance, and maintain trails and pathways through public funding, private funding and sponsorship opportunities, and partnerships with agencies and non-profit organizations.

Policy 10.2: Prioritize funding for a robust trail signage program to allow early adoption of segments that need little or no additional construction.

Policy 10.3: Monitor and respond to grant opportunities for trails, by providing information and support to potential project sponsors through the DPC.

Policy 10.4: Establish endowments for ongoing trail operations and maintenance.

Policy 10.5: Coordinate with the California Department of Fish and Game, Department of Parks and Recreation, Corps of Engineers and other public entities or non-profits to determine the most appropriate means to manage the Delta Trail; and to determine the appropriate entity to accept trail properties and easements and management responsibility and public use liability.

Policy 10.6: Partner with other entities such as schools, youth groups, 4H clubs, Scouts, community service organizations and businesses to sponsor and help implement trail segments or elements.

Policy 10.7: Involve volunteers in trail maintenance and management, and encourage groups or businesses to “adopt” trails.

Goal 11: Quality Operations and Maintenance

Policy 11.1: Prepare a management plan/agreement for each planned trail segment to ensure the protection, operation, and maintenance services necessary for the safety and support of trail users and affected landowners and neighbors.

Policy 11.2: To avoid potential conflicts and impacts consider all types of trail uses and appropriateness of demand when designating allowable uses at each trail setting/facility.

Policy 11.3: Involve volunteers in trail maintenance and management.

Policy 11.4: Work closely with the local community and especially trail neighbors to understand and address issues early on.

Policy 11.5: Arrange for review of trail corridors, alignments, and design by emergency service providers to ensure adequate emergency access, and ensure that an emergency response plan is included in the trail management plan/agreements.

Policy 11.6: Provide maps and trail guides to the public to increase awareness of the trail system and understanding and compliance with policies and regulations.

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Policy 11.7: Provide tidal schedules to the public to increase awareness of tidal change safety for canoe and kayak users.

Policy 11.8: Encourage trail management entities to develop and continue user education programs and volunteer trail patrols that promote proper trail use and etiquette.